

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 01015 200852Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 INRE-00
SSO-00 /031 W
-----076369 200854Z /13
O 200816Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4511

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 1015

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, JA
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: FLYING TIGER SINGAPORE APPLICATION

REF: STATE 15681

1. SUMMARY: WE APPRECIATE BACKGROUND IN REFTEL. EMBASSY'S CAUTION ABOUT POSSIBLE CAB ACTIONS WAS MOTIVATED BY CONCERN THAT CAB PROCEDURE NOW MIGHT IMPAIR GAINS OF STRAUSS VISIT. WE RECOGNIZE GOJ LEGAL ARGUMENT RE CAPACITY FREEZE DOESN'T HOLD WATER AND WE SEE NO INSUPERABLE PROBLEMS IN CAB'S PROCEEDING NORMALLY AGAINST JAL PROVIDED WE AVOID LINKAGE TO TRADE AND OTHER ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S EXPLANATION OF CAB PROCEDURE CONTAINED REFTEL AND ASSURANCE THAT ACTION DOES NOT INVOLVE IMMEDIATE RETALIATION. WE WERE NOT FAMILIAR WITH PROCESS AND TIMING INVOLVED.

3. WE DO NOT IN ANY SENSE ACCEPT THE GOJ'S LEGAL ARGUMENT AS TO WHY THE NOW-EXPIRED CAPACITY FREEZE SHOULD CONTINUE IN EFFECT. U.S. POSITION, CITED STATE 7889, THAT ISSUE IS NOT "HOW TO" EXTEND BUT "WHETHER" TO EXTEND FREEZE HAS BEEN CONVEYED TO MOFA, MOST RECENTLY DURING MEETING WITH DEP DIR GEN KITAMURA ON JANUARY 18. THERE
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IS NO DOUBT THAT AS LONG AS GOJ HOLDS TO ITS POSITION, MANY CHANGES IN SCHEDULE WILL BE SUBJECT TO CHALLENGE, PAN AM'S FEBRUARY 10 SCHEDULE BEING THE NEXT IN LINE. WE DID WANT TO CONVEY TO DEPARTMENT, HOWEVER, THAT MOFA APPEARS TO BELIEVE THAT IS HAS DONE ALL IT CAN TO KEEP THE LID ON THE CIVAIR SITUATION IN GENERAL.

4. EMBASSY DOES BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD PURSUE NORMAL AND USUAL USCAB PROCEDURES IN DEFENSE OF U.S. INTERESTS. WE DO NOT WANT TO INVOLVE CIVIL AIR PROBLEMS IN OTHER AREAS, SUCH AS TRADE, HOWEVER, AND FOR THAT REASON EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN THAT NO HASTY ACTION BE TAKEN ON THE HEELS OF AMB STRAUSS' VISIT. WE NOW UNDERSTAND USCAB ACTION WILL TAKE SOME TIME, AND AGREE FULLY THAT WE SHOULD PURSUE THAT COURSE AND MAINTAIN A FIRM, BUT ALSO CALM, ATTITUDE, PUBLICLY AND IN PRIVATE, WHICH WILL MINIMIZE RISK OF PROVOKING GOJ INTO EMOTIONAL REACTION.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: AIR ROUTE APPLICATIONS
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Draft Date: 20 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: EAIR, JA, FLYING TIGER AIRLINES
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